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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

United States of America,  
Plaintiff,

v.

Jesus Roberto Leal-Luque,  
a.k.a. Jesus Librado Leal-Luque,  
a.k.a. Jesus Leal-Luque,  
Defendant.

Case No. CR-23-956-PHX-MTL

**PLEA AGREEMENT**  
**(Fast Track § 5K3.1)**

Plaintiff, United States of America, and the defendant, Jesus Roberto Leal-Luque, hereby agree to dispose of this matter on the following terms and conditions:

**1. PLEA**

The defendant will plead guilty to an Indictment charging a violation of Title 8, United States Code (U.S.C.), Section 1326(a), with a possible sentencing enhancement under Section 1326(b)(1), Reentry of Removed Alien.

**2. MAXIMUM PENALTIES**

a. A violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1326(a), a Class E felony, is punishable by a maximum term of imprisonment of two years and a maximum term of supervised release of one year. If a sentencing enhancement under 8 U.S.C. § 1326(b)(1), a Class C felony, is applicable, then the maximum term of imprisonment is 10 years and the maximum term

1 of supervised release is three years. If a sentencing enhancement under 8 U.S.C.  
2 § 1326(b)(2), a Class C felony, is applicable, then the maximum term of imprisonment is  
3 20 years and the maximum term of supervised release is three years. A maximum fine of  
4 \$250,000 may be imposed in addition to any sentence of imprisonment. A maximum term  
5 of probation is five years, including a minimum term of one year if probation is imposed.

6 b. According to the Sentencing Guidelines issued pursuant to the Sentencing  
7 Reform Act of 1984, the Court shall order the defendant to:

8 (1) pay a fine pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3572, unless the Court finds that a  
9 fine is not appropriate;

10 (2) serve a term of supervised release when required by statute or when a  
11 sentence of imprisonment of more than one year is imposed (with the understanding that  
12 the Court may impose a term of supervised release in all other cases); and

13 (3) pay upon conviction a \$100 special assessment for each count to  
14 which the defendant pleads guilty pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3013.

15 c. The Court is required to consider the Sentencing Guidelines in determining  
16 the defendant's sentence. However, the Sentencing Guidelines are advisory, and the Court  
17 is free to exercise its discretion to impose any reasonable sentence up to the maximum set  
18 by statute for the crime(s) of conviction, unless there are stipulations to the contrary that  
19 the Court accepts.

20 d. The defendant recognizes that pleading guilty may have consequences with  
21 respect to the defendant's immigration status if the defendant is a recently naturalized  
22 United States citizen or is not a citizen of the United States. Under federal law, a broad  
23 range of crimes are removable offenses, including the offense to which the defendant is  
24 pleading guilty. Although there may be exceptions, the defendant understands that the  
25 defendant's guilty plea and conviction for this offense make it practically inevitable and a  
26 virtual certainty that the defendant will be removed or deported from the United States.  
27 The defendant agrees that the defendant has discussed this eventuality with the defendant's  
28 attorney. The defendant nevertheless affirms that the defendant wants to plead guilty

1 regardless of any immigration consequences that this plea entails, even if the consequence  
2 is the defendant's automatic removal from the United States.

3 **3. AGREEMENTS REGARDING SENTENCING**

4 a. Stipulation: Acceptance of Responsibility. Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P.  
5 11(c)(1)(C), if the defendant makes full and complete disclosure to the U.S. Probation  
6 Office of the circumstances surrounding the defendant's commission of the offense, and if  
7 the defendant demonstrates an acceptance of responsibility for this offense up to and  
8 including the time of sentencing, the United States will stipulate and agree to a two-level  
9 reduction pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1. If the defendant has an offense level of 16 or more,  
10 the United States will move for an additional one-level reduction pursuant to U.S.S.G.  
11 § 3E1.1.

12 b. Stipulated Sentence Under Early Disposition Program. Although the parties  
13 understand that the Sentencing Guidelines are only advisory, and just one of the factors the  
14 Court will consider under 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a), pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 11(c)(1)(C)  
15 the United States and the defendant stipulate and agree that the following is an appropriate  
16 disposition of this case:

17 (1) The defendant shall receive a four-level downward departure under  
18 U.S.S.G. § 5K3.1. The United States and the defendant stipulate and agree that the  
19 reductions under U.S.S.G. §§ 3E1.1 and 5K3.1 shall be the only reductions in sentence that  
20 the defendant shall receive, and that the defendant shall receive a sentence within the final  
21 adjusted Sentencing Guidelines range. If the defendant requests or if the Court authorizes  
22 (a) any adjustments or departures pursuant to the Sentencing Guidelines; (b) any variance  
23 under 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a); or (c) any other reduction or adjustment of sentence not  
24 specifically agreed to in writing by the parties, the United States may withdraw from the  
25 plea agreement.

26 (2) Notwithstanding the foregoing subparagraph, if the defendant is in  
27 criminal history category VI, the defendant shall receive a two-level departure under  
28 U.S.S.G. § 5K3.1, and a stipulation that the defendant's sentence shall not exceed the high

1 end of the final adjusted Sentencing Guideline range. If the defendant requests, or if the  
 2 Court authorizes, any adjustments or departures pursuant to the Sentencing Guidelines, the  
 3 United States may withdraw from this agreement. However, nothing in this agreement  
 4 shall preclude the defendant from arguing for, or the Court from granting, a variance under  
 5 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a) in support of a sentence below the final advisory Sentencing Guideline  
 6 range. The United States reserves the right to oppose any variance.

7 (3) If the defendant does not qualify for an increase to the defendant's  
 8 base offense level pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 2L1.2(b), then in lieu of the departures listed in  
 9 subparagraphs (1) and (2) above, the defendant's sentence shall not exceed the greater of  
 10 time served or the following caps:

11 Three months of imprisonment if defendant's Criminal History Category is I;

12 Four months of imprisonment if defendant's Criminal History Category is II;

13 Five months of imprisonment if defendant's Criminal History Category is III;

14 Six months of imprisonment if the defendant's Criminal History Category is IV;

15 Nine months of imprisonment if defendant's Criminal History Category is V; and

16 Twelve months and one day of imprisonment if the defendant's Criminal History  
 17 Category is VI.

18 c. Supervised Release. If the defendant is on supervised release, the United  
 19 States shall have the right to withdraw from this agreement.

20 **4. COURT APPROVAL REQUIRED; REINSTITUTION OF PROSECUTION**

21 a. If the Court, after reviewing this plea agreement, concludes that any  
 22 provision contained herein is inappropriate, it may reject the plea agreement and give the  
 23 defendant the opportunity to withdraw the guilty plea in accordance with Fed. R. Crim. P.  
 24 11(c)(5).

25 b. If the defendant's guilty plea or plea agreement is rejected, withdrawn,  
 26 vacated, or reversed at any time, this agreement shall be null and void, the United States  
 27 shall be free to prosecute the defendant for all crimes of which it then has knowledge and  
 28 any charges that have been dismissed because of this plea agreement shall automatically

1 be reinstated. In such event, the defendant waives any and all objections, motions, and  
 2 defenses based upon the Statute of Limitations, the Speedy Trial Act, or constitutional  
 3 restrictions in bringing later charges or proceedings. The defendant understands that any  
 4 statements made at the time of the defendant's change of plea or sentencing may be used  
 5 against the defendant in any subsequent hearing, trial, or proceeding subject to the  
 6 limitations of Fed. R. Evid. 410.

7 **5. WAIVER OF DEFENSES AND APPEAL RIGHTS**

8 The defendant waives (1) any and all motions, defenses, probable cause  
 9 determinations, and objections that the defendant could assert to the indictment or  
 10 information; and (2) any right to file an appeal, any collateral attack, and any other writ or  
 11 motion that challenges the conviction, an order of restitution or forfeiture, the entry of  
 12 judgment against the defendant, or any aspect of the defendant's sentence, including the  
 13 manner in which the sentence is determined, including but not limited to any appeals under  
 14 18 U.S.C. § 3742 (sentencing appeals) and motions under 28 U.S.C. §§ 2241 and 2255  
 15 (habeas petitions), and any right to file a motion for modification of sentence, including  
 16 under 18 U.S.C. § 3582(c) (except for the right to file a compassionate release motion under  
 17 18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(1)(A) and to appeal the denial of such a motion). This waiver shall  
 18 result in the dismissal of any appeal, collateral attack, or other motion the defendant might  
 19 file challenging the conviction, order of restitution or forfeiture, or sentence in this case.  
 20 This waiver shall not be construed to bar an otherwise-preserved claim of ineffective  
 21 assistance of counsel or of "prosecutorial misconduct" (as that term is defined by Section  
 22 II.B of Ariz. Ethics Op. 15-01 (2015)).

23 **6. REINSTATEMENT OF REMOVAL, DEPORTATION OR EXCLUSION OR**  
 24 **STIPULATION TO REMOVAL; EFFECT ON OTHER PROCEEDINGS**

25 The defendant admits that the defendant was the subject of a previous order of  
 26 removal, deportation or exclusion. The defendant agrees to the reinstatement of that  
 27 previous order of removal, deportation or exclusion. The defendant admits that the  
 28 defendant does not have a fear of returning to the country designated in the previous order.



1 If this plea agreement is accepted by the Court, the defendant agrees not to contest, either  
 2 directly or by collateral attack, the reinstatement of the prior order of removal, deportation  
 3 or exclusion. The defendant understands that this agreement does not preclude the United  
 4 States from instituting any civil or administrative proceedings as may be appropriate now  
 5 or in the future.

6 **7. DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION**

7 a. The United States retains the unrestricted right to provide information and  
 8 make any and all statements it deems appropriate to the U.S. Probation Office and to the  
 9 Court in connection with the case.

10 b. Any information, statements, documents, and evidence that the defendant  
 11 provides to the United States pursuant to this agreement may be used against the defendant  
 12 at any time.

13 c. The defendant shall cooperate fully with the U.S. Probation Office. Such  
 14 cooperation shall include providing complete and truthful responses to questions posed by  
 15 the U.S. Probation Office including, but not limited to, questions relating to:

- 16 (1) criminal convictions, history of drug abuse, and mental illness; and
- 17 (2) financial information, including present financial assets or liabilities
- 18 that relate to the ability of the defendant to pay a fine or restitution.

19 **8. ELEMENTS**

20 **Reentry of Removed Alien**

21 On or about May 18, 2021, in the District of Arizona:

- 22 1. The defendant was an alien;
- 23 2. The defendant had been previously denied admission, excluded, deported, or
- 24 removed from the United States;
- 25 3. The defendant knowingly and voluntarily reentered or was present after a
- 26 voluntary entry and found in the United States in the District of Arizona; and
- 27
- 28

1           4.     The defendant did not obtain the express consent of the Attorney General or  
2 the Secretary of Homeland Security to reapply for admission to the United States prior to  
3 returning to the United States.

4     **9.     FACTUAL BASIS**

5           a.     The defendant admits that the following facts are true and that if this matter  
6 were to proceed to trial the United States could prove the following facts beyond a  
7 reasonable doubt:

8  
9           I, Jesus Roberto Leal-Luque, am not a citizen or national of the United States.  
10 I was removed from the United States through Nogales, Arizona on August  
11 4, 2019. I was voluntarily present and found in the United States at or near  
12 Phoenix, Arizona on May 18, 2021. I was not under the constant, continuous  
observation of immigration authorities from the time I crossed the border  
until the time I was found on May 18, 2021. I did not obtain the express  
consent of the United States government to reapply for admission to the  
United States prior to returning to the United States.

13           For sentencing purposes, I admit I was convicted of Illegal Enterprise, a  
14 felony, on March 23, 2022, in the Superior Court of Maricopa County. I was  
15 represented by an attorney, and I was sentenced to two years and three  
months imprisonment.

16           b.     The defendant shall swear under oath to the accuracy of this statement and,  
17 if the defendant should be called upon to testify about this matter in the future, any  
18 intentional material inconsistencies in the defendant's testimony may subject the defendant  
19 to additional penalties for perjury or false swearing, which may be enforced by the United  
20 States under this agreement.

21                   **APPROVAL AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE DEFENDANT**

22           This agreement has been read to me in Spanish, and I have carefully reviewed every  
23 part of it with my attorney. I understand it and I voluntarily agree to it.

24           I have discussed the case and my constitutional and other rights with my attorney.  
25 I understand that by entering my plea of guilty I shall waive my rights to plead not guilty,  
26 to trial by jury, to confront, cross-examine, and compel the attendance of witnesses, to  
27 present evidence in my defense, to remain silent and refuse to be a witness against myself  
28

1 by asserting my privilege against self-incrimination, all with the assistance of counsel, and  
2 to be presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

3 I agree to enter my guilty plea as indicated above on the terms and conditions set  
4 forth in this agreement.

5 I have been advised by my attorney of the nature of the charges to which I am  
6 entering my guilty plea. I have further been advised by my attorney of the nature and range  
7 of the possible sentence and that my ultimate sentence shall be determined by the Court  
8 after consideration of the advisory Sentencing Guidelines.

9 My guilty plea is not the result of force, threats, assurances, or promises, other than  
10 the promises contained in this agreement. I voluntarily agree to the provisions of this  
11 agreement and I agree to be bound according to its provisions.

12 I understand that if I am granted probation or placed on supervised release by the  
13 Court, the terms and conditions of such probation/supervised release are subject to  
14 modification at any time. I further understand that if I violate any of the conditions of my  
15 probation/supervised release, my probation/supervised release may be revoked and upon  
16 such revocation, notwithstanding any other provision of this agreement, I may be required  
17 to serve a term of imprisonment or my sentence otherwise may be altered.

18 This written plea agreement, and any written addenda filed as attachments to this  
19 plea agreement, contain all the terms and conditions of the plea. Any additional  
20 agreements, if any such agreements exist, shall be recorded in a separate document and  
21 may be filed with the Court under seal; accordingly, additional agreements, if any, may not  
22 be in the public record.

23 I further agree that promises, including any predictions as to the Sentencing  
24 Guideline range or to any Sentencing Guideline factors that will apply, made by anyone  
25 (including my attorney) that are not contained within this written plea agreement, are null  
26 and void and have no force and effect.

27 I am satisfied that my defense attorney has represented me in a competent manner.  
28



1 I fully understand the terms and conditions of this plea agreement. I am not now  
 2 using or under the influence of any drug, medication, liquor, or other intoxicant or  
 3 depressant that would impair my ability to fully understand the terms and conditions of this  
 4 plea agreement.

5 6/29/2023

6 Date

*Jesus Roberto Leal-Luque*  
 JESUS ROBERTO LEAL-LUQUE  
 Defendant

7  
 8 **APPROVAL OF DEFENSE COUNSEL**

9 I have discussed this case and the plea agreement with my client in detail and have  
 10 advised the defendant of all matters within the scope of Fed. R. Crim. P. 11, the  
 11 constitutional and other rights of an accused, the factual basis for and the nature of the  
 12 offense to which the guilty plea will be entered, possible defenses, and the consequences  
 13 of the guilty plea including the maximum statutory sentence possible. I have further  
 14 discussed the concept of the advisory Sentencing Guidelines with the defendant. No  
 15 assurances, promises, or representations have been given to me or to the defendant by the  
 16 United States or any of its representatives that are not contained in this written agreement.  
 17 I concur in the entry of the plea as indicated above and that the terms and conditions set  
 18 forth in this agreement are in the best interests of my client. I agree to make a bona fide  
 19 effort to ensure that the guilty plea is entered in accordance with all the requirements of  
 20 Fed. R. Crim. P. 11.

21 I translated or had translated this agreement from English into Spanish to the  
 22 defendant on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2023.

23 6/29/2023

24 Date

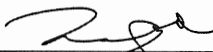
*Ian Bucón*  
 IAN BUCÓN  
 Attorney for Defendant

**APPROVAL OF THE UNITED STATES**

I have reviewed this matter and the plea agreement. I agree on behalf of the United States that the terms and conditions set forth herein are appropriate and are in the best interests of justice.

GARY M. RESTAINO  
United States Attorney  
District of Arizona

June 12, 2023  
Date

  
MARCUS W. SHAND  
Assistant U.S. Attorney

**ACCEPTANCE BY THE COURT**

Date

HONORABLE MICHAEL T. LIBURDI  
United States District Judge